

Newer Basalt have not been observed cutting through the Miocenes.

The nature of the deposit, together with the vast number of plant remains found in the various strata, and the absence within the area under notice of a marine fauna, stamps the so-called Miocenes of Bacchus Marsh as a freshwater deposit. Probably the material has been brought together by rivers entering a low-lying area occupied by lakes and swampy land. Since the early reference by the officers of the geological survey of Victoria to these beds, several writers have written papers and reports on the so-called Miocene deposits of Bacchus Marsh; of these, however, I have only had the pleasure of reading Mr. W. H. Ferguson's "Notes on the Occurrence of Limestone at Merrimu." In conclusion, I would draw attention to the finding of chipped flint (?) and quartzite weapons and implements in the Post Pliocene deposits of Bacchus Marsh.

NOTES ON A SERICORNIS FROM KENT GROUP.

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(Read before the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria, 14th September, 1896.)

SEVERAL specimens of a *Sericornis* from Kent Group have been submitted to me by Mr. A. J. Campbell. Three are marked as males, the others being unsexed, while one is supposed to be an immature example. I have compared them with specimens of the Victorian *Sericornis frontalis*, which, however, are unsexed on the labels, though one is presumably a male. The examples from the two localities are very similar. The Kent Group specimens are one-eighth of an inch larger in the wing. The adult birds are darker on the head and have more dark colouring about the face and loreal region than *S. frontalis*. The most marked difference, however, is in the throat of the island birds: both the adults are darker; in one the dark colouration takes the form of a mark instead of stripes as in the bird from the mainland; in the other the marking is striated in character, yet more confluent than on the mainland species. The white tippings of the primary coverts are much the same in both varieties, but the dark edging is more intense in the Victorian bird. The colouration of the under surface is the same in both. Although the series under consideration is not sufficiently large to enable me to pronounce a decided opinion on the specific distinctions or otherwise of these examples, I am of opinion that the island bird may be considered a sub-species of *S. frontalis*, and would propose the title of *Sericornis gularis* for it. It is, however, probable that a large series from Kent Island might upset this decision. The bird was discovered by the expedition from the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria which visited these islands in November, 1890.